



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 02860.0700

#510
08/25/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Hiroyuki HATTORI et al.

Application No.: 10/025,492

Filed: December 26, 2001

For: OPTICAL ELEMENT AND
MANUFACTURING METHOD

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) Group Art Unit: 2872
)
) Examiner: A. LAVARIAS
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)
)
)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RECEIVED
JUN 25 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

AMENDMENT

In reply to the Office Action dated March 26, 2003, please amend the application
as follows:

IN THE TITLE:

Please change the title to read --MOLDED OPTICAL ELEMENT AND MOLDING
METHOD--.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, second full paragraph, please replace to read:

--An example of the optical element is a plastic lens which is used for an optical
system of an optical equipment such as an optical pickup device and a camera. As a

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a1
Cat plastic lens of this type, there is plastic lens 100 which has on its one side a surface of diffractive structure 100a, as shown in Fig. 7.--

The paragraph bridging pages 9 and 10, please replaced to read:

a2 --The plastic lens representing an optical element in the present embodiment has optical functional section 1a and flange section 1b that is formed on the outer circumference of the optical functional section 1a, as shown in Fig. 6. On the surface on one side of the optical functional section 1a, there is formed diffractive structure 1c that is in a microscopic step-wise shape so that highly accurate and desired optical characteristics may be obtained. Incidentally, though the flange section 1b is provided on the outer circumference of the optical functional section 1a of the plastic lens 1 in the present embodiment, the lens does not need to have the flange section, and it may further be a disk-shaped lens without being limited to a circular lens. In addition, the optical element may be a light-conductive object, without being limited to a plastic lens.-

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add new claim 9, as follows:

a3 9. (New) The optical element of claim 1, wherein the first surface is a convex surface.

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Subject to the approval of the Examiner, please amend Figs. 1, 3 and 7-10 as set forth in the Submission of Corrected Drawings filed concurrently herewith.

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